APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/853,716	05/14/2001	Tim Wilson	O8-887325US1	6617

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EXAMINER
BESROUR, SAOUSSEN

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2131	

SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
3 MONTHS	04/30/2007	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE _3_ MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.
- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
  Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on _2/12/2007_.

2a)☒ This action is **FINAL.**   2b)☐ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) _1-6,9-11,25,28-32,34-36,48 and 49_ is/are pending in the application.

    4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) _1-6,9-11,25,28-32,34-36,48 and 49_ is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

    Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a)☐ All   b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

      1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

      2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

      3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

DETAILED ACTION

1.   This action is in response to amendment filed 2/12/2007.   Claims 1, 25 and 28

were amended.   New claims 48 and 49 were added. Claims 1-6, 9-11, 25, 28-32, 34-

36 and 48-49 are pending. Applicant's arguments/ amendments with respect to the

claims have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. The Examiner would

like to point out that this action is made final (See MPEP 706.07a).

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments filed 2/12/2007 with respect to the claims have been

considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

2.   Regarding Applicant's argument that Yuasa does not teach "providing a group or

VLAN in a VBN", Examiner respectfully disagrees and would like to point out that VBN

is the provision of high speed internet access in public places and any internet Ethernet

LAN can be a visitor based network by a adding a server, therefore Yuasa discloses in

Column 13, lines 17-60 that a plurality if VLANs are placed in an information

communication network environment in a distributed manner such as in residential

units, office building, a plant or a hospital (public areas) via a local network server into

which network service functions provide virtual common information space or electronic

conferencing.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all

obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

3.   **Claims 1-6, 9-11, 25, 28-32, 34-36 and 48-49** are rejected under 35 U.S.C.

103(a) as being unpatentable over Yuasa et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,085,238) in view of

Short et al. (20060239254).

As per **claim 1**, Yuasa et al. discloses: receiving a request from a non-technically

trained user of a visitor based network to establish a group of users in the VBN (Column

7, Lines 7-10, 55-65, Column 8, Lines 4-10, Column 10, Lines 17-21, Column 13, lines

17-60 and Column 25, Lines 17-21, Fig. 63); configuring, in response to the request, a

network infrastructure of the VBN to support the group without intervention of

information systems personnel (Column 7, Lines 60-65); further configuring the network

infrastructure of the VBN to support the joining users without intervention of information

systems personnel (Column 11, Lines 39-44, Column 42, Lines 11-22). Yuasa et al.

does not explicitly teach: the request including a group identifier which includes a group

name and password provided by the user and identifies the group; allowing other non

technically trained users to join the group using the group name and password; and

dissolving the group based on predetermined rules including a predetermined rule to

dissolve the group at expiry of a predetermined period. However, Short et al. discloses:

the request including a group identifier which includes a group name and password

provided by the user and identifies the group (0042); allowing other non technically

trained users to join the group using the group name and password (0039); and

dissolving the group based on predetermined rules including a predetermined rule to

dissolve the group at expiry of a predetermined period (0050). Therefore, it would have

been obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to

use the teachings of Short et al. in conjunction with the teachings of Yuasa for the

benefit of securing access into the group resources.

As per **claim 25**, Yuasa et al. discloses: receiving a request from a non-

technically trained user of a visitor based network (VBN) to establish a group of users in

the VBN (Column 7, Lines 7-10, 55-65, Column 8, Lines 4-10, Column 10, Lines 17-21

and Column 25, Lines 17-21, Fig. 63); configuring, in response to the request, a network

infrastructure of the VBN to support the group without intervention of information

systems personnel (Column 7, Lines 60-65); further configuring the network

infrastructure of the VBN to support the joining users without intervention of information

systems personnel (Column 11, Lines 39-44, Column 42, Lines 11-22). Yuasa et al.

does not explicitly teach: the request including a group identifier which includes a group

name and password provided by the user and identifies the group; allowing other non

technically trained users to join the group using the group name and password; and

dissolving the group based on predetermined rules including a predetermined rule to

dissolve the group at expiry of a predetermined period. However, Short et al. discloses:

the request including a group identifier which includes a group name and password

provided by the user and identifies the group (0042); allowing other non technically

trained users to join the group using the group name and password (0039); and

dissolving the group based on predetermined rules including a predetermined rule to

dissolve the group at expiry of a predetermined period (0050). Therefore, it would have

been obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to

use the teachings of Short et al. in conjunction with the teachings of Yuasa for the

benefit of securing access into the group resources.

As per **claim 28**, Yuasa et al. discloses: a registration module to receive from a

non-technically trained userof a visitor based network (VBN) to create a group of users

in eth VBN (Column 7, Lines 7-10, 55-65, Column 8, Lines 4-10, Column 10, Lines 17-

21 and Column 25, Lines 17-21, Fig. 63); a registration driver to register the user and

the other users to access the group of users, assign the group pf users and maintain

registration information and state information of a network infrastructure of the VBN

associated with the group of users according to the group identifier in response to the

requests from the user without intervention of information systems personnel (Column

11, Lines 1-7, Column 11, Lines 35-51 Column 10, Lines 65-67, and Column 22, Lines

34-43); a module to assign VLAN tags to the group based on registration status

(Column 25, Lines 46-57 and Column 26, Lines 12-16); a packet driver module to

insert/remove VLAN tags from packets based on registration status (Column 25, Lines

46-57 and Column 26, Lines 12-22). Yuasa et al. does not explicitly teach the request

including a group identifier which includes a group name and password provided by the user and identifies the group; and allowing other non technically trained users of the VBN to join the group using the group name and password, and dissolving the group based on predetermined rules including a predetermined rule to dissolve the group at expiry of a predetermined period. However, Short et al. discloses the request including a group identifier which includes a group name and password provided by the user and identifies the group (0042); and allowing other non technically trained users of eth VBN to join the group using the group name and password (0039) and dissolving the group based on predetermined rules including a predetermined rule to dissolve the group at expiry of a predetermined period (0050). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use the teachings of Short et al. in conjunction with the teachings of Yuasa for the benefit of securing access into the group resources.

As per **claim 2**, rejected as applied to claim 1. Furthermore, Yuasa et al. discloses: the group of users is composed of one or more users (Column 21, Lines 66-Column 22, Line 5, Clients U1...).

As per **claim 3**, rejected as applied to claim 1. Furthermore, Yuasa et al. discloses: the network infrastructure includes a physical local area network (Column 21, Lines 51-57 LAN).

As per **claim 4**, rejected as applied to claim 1. Furthermore, Yuasa et al. discloses: the step of establishing a virtual local area network on a physical local area network (Column 17, Lines 58-61).

As per **claim 5**, rejected as applied to claim 1. Furthermore, Yuasa et al. discloses: the step of configuring switches that are IEEE802.1Q compliant (Column 25, Line 54).

As per **claim 6**, rejected as applied to claim 5. Furthermore, Yuasa et al. discloses: a use of Q-tag (Column 5, Lines 57-59).

As per **claim 9**, rejected as applied to claim 1. Furthermore, Yuasa et al. discloses: the step of configuring a switch port that a joining user is connected to with a VLAN associated with the group (Column 37, Lines 61-67).

As per **claim 10**, rejected as applied to claim 1. Furthermore, Short et al. discloses: revoking the group identifier (0050, closing group session).

As per **claim 11**, rejected as applied to claim 10. Furthermore, Shorta et al. discloses: the step of returning ports switches supporting a VLAN associated with the dissolved group to a default state and removing all references to the VLAN associated with the dissolved group from the switches (0050).

As per **claim 29**, rejected as applied to claim 28. Furthermore, Yuasa et al. discloses: the VLAN tags are Q-tags of IEEE802.1Q (Column 25, Line 54).

As per **claim 30**, rejected as applied to claim 28. Furthermore, Yuasa et al. discloses: the state information of a network infrastructure is information on the switches that are IEEE803.1Q compliant (Column 25, Lines 53-59, Column 26, Lines 12-34).

As per **claim 31**, rejected as applied to claim 28. Furthermore, Yuasa et al. discloses: the module to construct VLAN tags comprises the SNMP module (Column 55, Lines 10-40).

As per **claim 32**, rejected as applied to claim 28. Furthermore, Yuasa et al. discloses: a web based user interface (Column 2, Lines 14 GUI).

As per **claim 34**, rejected as applied to claim 28. Furthermore, Yuasa et al. discloses: a switch commander for configuring a network infrastructure to support the group without intervention of information systems personnel in response to the request for creating the group of users (Column 7, Lines 60-65, and Column 9, Lines 40-53).

As per **claim 35**, rejected as applied to claim 28. Furthermore, Yuasa et al. discloses: the registration module further receives from the user a request for showing information associated with the group of users (Column 50, Lines 49-59).

As per **claim 36**, rejected as applied to claim 28. Furthermore, Short et al. discloses: the registration module further receives from the user a request for deleting the group of users (0054, logging off).

As per **claims 48 and 49**, rejected as applied to claims 1 and 28. Furthermore short et al. discloses: a usage period provided by the user; and dissolving step dissolves the group when the usage period expires (0050).

Conclusion

4.   Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP

§ 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37

CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE

MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within

TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not

mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the

shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any

extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of

the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later

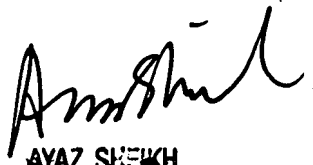than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

5.   Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the

examiner should be directed to Saoussen Besrour whose telephone number is 571-272-

6547. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:30am to 5:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's

supervisor, Ayaz Sheikh can be reached on 571-272-3795. The fax phone number for

the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the

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system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

SB
April 25, 2007

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